It is Claimed:

- 1. A substantially pure protein characterized by a physiologically active form and comprising an amino acid sequence encoded by the DNA of SEQ ID NO:2.
- 2. The protein as in claim 1 having neurotrophic, growth or differentiation factor activity.
- 3. A composition comprising the protein of claim 1 and a physiologically acceptable carrier with which the peptide is admixed.
- 4. An oligonucleotide construct comprising a sequence coding for a protein and an expression vector operatively linked therewith, the protein having neurotrophic, growth or differentiation factor activity and being expressible from SEQ ID NO:2.
- 5. The construct as in claim 4 wherein the expression vector is a mammalian or viral expression vector.
- 6. A substantially pure protein characterized by a physiologically active form and comprising an amino acid sequence encoded by the DNA of SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:8, or SEQ ID NO:10.
- 7. The protein as in claim 6 having neurotrophic, growth or differentiation factor activity.
- 8. A composition comprising the protein of claim 6 and a physiologically acceptable carrier with which the protein is admixed.

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- 9. An oligonucleotide construct comprising a sequence coding for a protein and an expression vector operatively linked therewith, the protein being expressible from SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:8 or SEQ ID NO:10.
- 10. The construct as in claim 9 wherein the protein is expressible in soluble form.
- 11. The construct as in claim 9 wherein the expression vector is a mammalian or viral expression vector.

12. A complex comprising a substantially pure frzb-1 protein complexed with at least one Wnt protein.

- 13. A substantially pure protein characterized by a physiologically active form and comprising an amino acid sequence encoded by the DNA of SEQ ID NO:6.
- 14. The protein as in claim 13 having mesoderm differentiation activity.
- 15. A composition comprising the protein of claim 13 and a physiologically acceptable carrier with which the protein is admixed.